

# **MSFC Safety *Bulletin***

## **Loose Screws Cause Chair Failure**

### **What Happened:**

An employee was sitting on a work chair (shown at right), when the seat separated from the base at the point of attachment. The employee was not injured.

### **What Caused It:**

The chair is at least 15 years old. One of the four fasteners attaching the wooden seat plate to the metal chair base was loose. This allowed the metal attachment flanges to flex, as the stress on the seat varied in location. Eventually, repetitive flexion caused metal fatigue, and the mounting system failed.



### **What Can Be Done:**

- Inspect all chairs of this type for loose attachment of the seat plate, and signs of metal fatigue.
- Tighten fasteners, or remove chair from service, as appropriate to chair condition.
- Due to its age, this chair had no value; replacement cost is approximately \$200.

### **Who To Call:**

- Contact MSFC Furniture Operations (Darrel Reid/Cortez III, 544-4775).
- To obtain more information or assistance.

